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Resolution 1998-07-09 Regarding the Potential Role of the NRLSC

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Resolution 1998-07-09

REGARDING THE POTENTIAL ROLE OF THE NRLSC

WHEREAS, the National Recreational Lakes Study Commission is charged by Congress with studying and reporting recommendations which might lead to the establishment of a chain of national, federally owned, recreational lakes; and

WHEREAS, the charge of the NRLSC includes potential enhancement of (partnerships) with state and local governments and the private sector; and

WHEREAS, there already exists ample examples of the one-sided nature of such (partnerships) promoted by federal agencies seeking to divest themselves of responsibility for the management of recreational resources; and

WHEREAS, most federal water projects were justified economically by the assignments of substantial benefits from public use at those projects, but especially hunting, fishing, and boating; and

WHEREAS, many of the facilities constructed for public use at federal water projects are aging, in serious need of repair and modernization to meet current standards such as those established by the Americans With Disabilities Act, and incapable of generating a (break-even) income stream; and

WHEREAS, divesting responsibility for such areas will constitute an unfair burden on state and local government, and private sector (partners), and, because of the nature and location of such facilities, have a negative impact on public use at federal water projects;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies requests that any recommendations made by the NRLSC to the Congress include a full and complete analysis of costs associated with state and local governments, and the private sector, entering into (partnerships) to enhance recreation at federal water projects; and that the NRLSC include adequate funding in any recommendations to the Congress regarding divestiture of federal responsibility for recreation at federal water projects.